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Report
on the
Health
of
Denton
1947

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URBAN DISTRICT of DENTON

Report
on the
Health
of
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1947

HAZEL I. ASHFORD,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

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Health Committee

Councillor Reginald Ernest Mather, Chairman.
,, Stanley Walker, J.P., Ex-Officio.
,, John Roberts.
,, Fred Thompson.
,, William Barker.
,, Charles Edward Clarkson.
,, Albert Hewitt.
,, Walter Houghton.
,, William Henry Marsland
,, Marie Moores.
,, Eva Winifred Brown, C.C.
,, Vernon Stanley Wesley.
,, William Clayton Pickford.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee

Members of the Council :

Councillor Eva Winifred Brown, C.C., Chairman.
,, Stanley Walker, J.P., Ex-Officio.
,, Fred Thompson.
,, William Barker.
,, Charles Edward Clarkson.
,, Albert Hewitt.
,, Reginald Ernest Mather.
,, Walter Houghton.
,, William Henry Marsland.
,, Marie Moores.
,, Vernon Stanley Wesley.
,, William Clayton Pickford

and

Non-Members of the Council :

Mrs. Ethel Cooke.
,, Ellen Whelan.
,, Gertrude McKenna. Died 2.11.47
,, Violet Stapleton.

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

HAZEL I. ASHFORD,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector, Meat and Food Inspector Cleansing Superintendent and Petroleum Officer :

CECIL R. LANGDON,
Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.J.B.

Meat and Food Inspectors' Cert. R.S.I.
Diploma of the R.I.P.H. and H.
Testamur of the Institute of Public Cleansing.
Sanitary Science Certificate R.S.I. as applied to Public Works and Buildings.
Assoc. Memb. Cert. Inst. San. Eng.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

ERIC THORNELEY,

Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.J.B.
Meat and Food Inspectors' Cert. R.S.I.
Resigned 30th September, 1947.

RONALD JAMES STANYARD,

Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.J.B.
Meat and Food Inspectors' Cert. R.S.I.
Appointed 1st December, 1947.

Health Visitors

MISS HELEN JONES,
S.R.N., S.C.M., N.H.V.R.S.I.

MRS. ANNIE SHAW.
S.R.N., S.C.M., N.H.V.R.S.I.

MRS. IDA FERGUSON,
S.R.N., S.C.M., N.H.V.R.S.I.

Appointed 6th February, 1947.

Day Nursery :

Matron : MRS. MARY DUDLEY, S.R.N.
Deputy Matron : MRS. NORA GEORGE.

Clerical Staff :

Senior Clerk : WILLIAM LESLIE KING.
Clerk and Typist : MRS. EDNA MAY LLOYD.

Public Health Department,
16 Victoria Street,
DENTON.

The Chairman and Members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee and the Public Health Committee.

LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

I present for your consideration the Annual Report for 1947.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HAZEL I. ASHFORD.

Section 'A'

Statistical

Area (in acres)	2,592.25
Population (Census, 1931)	17,384
Estimated Population mid-year as supplied by the Reg. General	24,770
Number of Houses (Census, 1931)	4,766
Number of Houses.....	8,283
Rateable value	£126,020
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£491

		M	F	Total
Live Births :	Legitimate	280	274	554
	Illegitimate	11	7	18
		291	281	572

Birth Rate 23.0
England and Wales 20.5

Stillbirths :	Legitimate	5	10	15
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
		5	10	15

Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still Births) 25

Infant Deaths:	Legitimate	14	10	24
	Illegitimate.....	-	-	-
		14	10	24

Deaths all infants per 1,000 live births	41
Deaths legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	43
Deaths illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil

Deaths	157	139	296

Death Rate 11.9
England and Wales 12.0

Deaths

The following table shows the chief causes of death during the year.

	M	F
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	6	2
Syphilitic Diseases	—	—
Influenza	1	—
Ac. Infantile Encephalitis	1	—
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	5	5
Cancer of Breast	—	4
Cancer of all other sites	16	16
Diabetes	2	—
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	14	21
Heart Disease	41	48
Other diseases of cir. system	8	—
Bronchitis	16	10
Pneumonia	9	3
Other respiratory diseases	1	2
Ulcer of the Stomach and Duodenum	2	1
Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	4	—
Appendicitis	1	1
Other Digestive diseases	2	3
Nephritis	2	6
Premature Births	4	4
Con. mal., birth: inj. infant. dis.	5	5
Suicide	3	0
Other violent causes	2	1
All other causes	12	7
Total	157	139

Section 'B'

General Provision of Health Services

Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological and bacteriological work is entrusted to the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

The following table shows work done by the Laboratory during the year :

	Diphtheria Total	Tuberculosis Human Sputum Total	Tuberculosis Bovine Milk Total	+	Water Bacteriological
January	—	—	—		—
February	1	—	2		—
March	1	—	2	1	—
April	1	—	—		—
May	2	—	—		—
June	7	2	—		—
July	2	1	—		1
August	4	—	—		1
September	5	—	—		1
October	4	1	—		—
November	7	—	3		1
December	7	—	—		—
	41	4	7	1	4

Various Investigations

Nature	No. of Samples
Fæces—Dysentry	3
Milk for Methylene Blue and Coli.	9
Milk for Bacterial Count and B. Coli.	1
Swabs for Hæmolytic Streptococci	5
Ice Cream for Bacterial Count	5
Ice Cream for Bacterial Count and Methylene Blue	15

Ambulance Facilities

(a) For Infectious cases—The Council has the use of the Hyde Borough Infectious Diseases ambulance. 27 patients were conveyed to Hospital.

(b) For non-Infectious and Accident cases—The Council is a constituent authority of the Hyde and District Ambulance Committee. The number of calls in the District during the year was 3,143.

Nursing in the Home.

The Denton Sick Nursing Association provide for Nursing in all cases except maternity and infectious disease.

Hospitals

There are no general medical or surgical hospitals in the district. Cases are treated at hospitals in the neighbouring districts of Ashton-under-Lyne, Manchester and Stockport. The Council contributes to the various hospitals.

Maternity and Child Welfare

Midwifery Service

The midwifery service in the district is under the control of the County Council. There are two full time midwives and a third devotes the greater part of her time to the district.

230 births were attended by the midwives.

Maternity and Child Welfare

The Council provides and maintains TWO infant welfare centres.

ATTENDANCES	Peel Street	Granada Road	Total
First attendance under 1 year	418	131	549
Subsequent attendances under 1 year	6936	2604	9540
Total	7354	2735	10089
First attendance of children 1—5. years old	25	14	39
Subsequent attendances of children 1—5 years old	2224	642	2866
Total	2249	656	2905

Home Visits

Expectant Mothers	— First visit.....	60
	— Subsequent visits.....	53
Newly-born infants	— First visit.....	590
	— Subsequent visits.....	839
Children over 1 year	....	1337
Stillbirths	....	14

Post Natal Clinics

Number of Women who attended	6
Number of attendances	6

Ultra-Violet Light Treatment.

Number of children who received treatment	107
Number of attendances	1283

Ante-Natal Clinic

Sessions are held on alternate Wednesdays. Dr. Eleanor M. Mills resigned from her appointment as obstretic consultant in July and was succeeded by Dr. W. E. C. Thomas.

Number of Women who attended.....	213
Number of attendances	821

Supply of Milk and Foods

This work is very ably conducted by the Voluntary Welfare Association who supply nourishments free to expectant and nursing mothers and cases of sickness. In addition Dried Milk was supplied as follows:

Number of Packets supplied free of cost.....	644
Number of Packets supplied at cost	19942

Maternity Homes and Hospitals

(a) Normal cases are admitted to Maternity hospitals in the surrounding districts.

(b) Abnormal cases are admitted, by agreement, to St. Mary's Hospital Manchester or the District Infirmary, Ashton-under-Lyne, 20 cases were admitted during the year.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

During the year 2 cases were notified and treated at home. Cases requiring hospital treatment are admitted to the Royal Eye Hospital, Manchester.

Child Life Protection

The Health Visitors have been appointed Infant Protection Visitors. The number of Children on the register at the end of the year was 2.

Home Help Service

A Home Help service is in operation. 25 cases were provided with Home Helps during the year.

Illegitimate Children

The Council operates jointly with the Lancashire County Council a scheme for the welfare of illegitimate children. A Social Worker has been appointed.

Premature Infants

As far as practicable the recommendations of Ministry of Health Circular 20/44 are observed 33 notifications of premature infants were received.

Dental

Facilities are available for the dental treatment of children under 5 and nursing and expectant mothers.

Orthopaedic

The Council, jointly with the Lancashire County Council, operates a scheme for the treatment of crippled children under five years of age.

War Time Nursery

Total number of attendances.....	9628
Average number of children on register	44
Average daily attendance at nursery :	
Under 2 years	7
2 years and over.....	25

Baby Week

The Maternity and Child Welfare Association's Ladies Voluntary Committee entertained the Mothers and children to afternoon tea and games in the Peel Street Centre at each Session during Baby Week.

Section 'C'

Sanitary circumstances of the Area

Water Supply

The whole of the district is supplied from the mains of the Manchester Corporation. The supply is constant and of good quality. Samples were submitted for analysis, as follows :

Bacteriological	4

Drainage and Sewerage

The drainage of the district is on the partially separate system. A comprehensive scheme in connection with sewerage and sewage disposal is at present under construction.

Closet Accommodation

Pail Closets	14
Fresh Water Closets	8804
Waste Water Closets	273
Trough Closets	26

Public Cleansing

Domestic refuse collection is carried out by two S.D. Freighters However with the growth of the district during the last 10 years it is necessary in order to maintain a regular weekly collection that additional transport for this purpose should be provided.

There are no privy middens or dry ash pits in the district. 8394 dustbins were in use at the end of the year.

Salvage

	Tons	cwts	qrs.	lbs.
Paper	128	18	3	—
Kitchen Waste	185	19	3	—
Bottles, Jars	8	13	—	—
Sacking, Rags	1	6	1	7
Bones		4	3	—
Scrap Metal		4	—	—

Income - £1293 12s. 1d.

Rats and Mice Survey

		Dwellinghouses	Factories, Workshops, &c.
No. of inspections		6294	274
Premises infested		748	186
Premises cleared		579	151
Estimated Kill	Rats	201	830
	Mice	2658	1528

During the year a maintenance treatment was carried out in the Council's sewers.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Water supply	3
House drainage	9
Stables and piggeries	61
Tents, vans and sheds	10
Factories and workshops	96
Public conveniences	159
Refuse collection	481
Refuse disposal	236
Rats and mice	49
Smoke observations	38
School yards and lavatories	21
Miscellaneous visits	46
Interviews with agents, owners, etc. of property	165
Petroleum acts	14

Result of Action in regard to Defects or Nuisances

Dustbins renewed	382
Blocked drains released	57
Downspouts repaired	10
W.C. cisterns repaired	17
Water supply pipes repaired	56
W.C. pedestals renewed	29
Roofs repaired	105
Eavesgutters repaired	57
Damp walls remedied	81
Window frames and sash cords repaired	46
Floors repaired	36
Walls replastered	31
Ceilings replastered	27
Stairs repaired	3
Firegrates repaired	67
Miscellaneous repairs	97
Offensive accumulations removed	2

Notices

	Served		Complied with	
	Informal	Statutory	Informal	Statutory
Public Health Act, 1936	405	118	398	129
Housing Act, 1936	404	234	378	199

Shops and Offices

Frequent visits to shops and offices have been made, and in one instance an additional sanitary convenience was provided.

Camping Sites

There are no licensed sites in the area.

Smoke abatement

The emission of black smoke is limited to two minutes per half hour. 38 observations were made during the year. Joint action was taken with the Ministry of Fuel and Power to eliminate production of black smoke from a boiler burning unsuitable fuel.

Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no swimming baths or pools in the district.

Eradication of Bugs

During the year 10 houses were found to be infested with bugs and were appropiately dealt with. Zaldecide, D.D.T. and sulphur candles are used for this purpose. Fumigation of furniture in cases of suspected infestation is employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal into Council houses. The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Council.

Schools

The sanitary condition is satisfactory at all schools with the exception of St. Lawrence's and St. Mary's C. of E. Schools. The closet accommodation in both instances is unsatisfactory, but conversion to fresh water closets is expected in the near future.

Factories Act 1937

Inspections

For purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Inspections (4)	Number of Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	12	3		
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 applies				
(*a*) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Order 1938	122	96	7	
(*b*) Others ...				
(iii) Other premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises)	1			
TOTAL ...	135	99	7	

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars 1	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found 3	Remedied 4	Referred To H.M. Inspector 5	Referred By H.M. Inspector 6
Want of cleanliness (S.1)				
Overcrowding (S.2) ...				
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)				
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)...				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)... ...	1	1		1
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)...				
(*a*) insufficient ...	14	14		13
(*b*) unsuitable or defective				
(*c*) Not separate for sexes				
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework ...				
TOTAL ...	15	15		14

Outwork

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	No. of outworkers in August list required by Sect.110(1)(c) (3)
Wearing apparel, Making, etc.	110

Section 'D'

Housing

Statistics	Prefabricated houses Temporary.	Prefabricated houses Permanent	Traditional permanent houses
1. Number of new houses erected during the year by the local authority	52	88	18
2. By other local authorities	—	—	7
3. By other bodies or persons	—	—	101

Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :—

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 1814

   (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 3403

2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 933

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 1323

3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .... Nil

4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive to those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 809

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers 448

Action under statutory powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 234

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :
(a) By owners 181
(b) By local authority in default of owners 18

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 118

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners 97

(b) By local authority in default of owners 32

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 .... Nil

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Acts 1936..... .... Nil

Housing Act 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 540

(2) Number of families dwelling therein 897

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein 2704

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 124

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 104

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases 468

Section 'E'

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Milk Supply

There were 19 cowkeepers on the register at the end of the year including 5 dairy farmers. The number of registered dairymen or milk purveyors was 82. 5 of the cowkeepers are licensed by the Lancashire County Council for the production of accredited milk, and 1 for the production of tuberculin tested milk.

Under the provisions of the Milk Special Designations Regulations 1936—1946, 7 supplementary licences were issued, 2 in respect of tuberculin tested and 5 in respect of pasteurised milk.

Milk sampling

	Satis-factory	Unsatis-factory	Total
Gerber Sediment Test	21	9	30
Methylene Blue and Coli	5	4	9
Bacterial County and B. Coli	1		1
Tuberculosis.....	6	1	7

Meat and other Foods

Shops, hawkers' carts, market stalls, etc., are inspected by the Sanitary Inspectors, who also inspect cattle etc., slaughtered at the Ministry of Food No. 2, Depot, Stockport. This Depot supplies meat for four areas and a rota system is in force for the purpose of meat inspection. Carcases were inspected as follows :—

Beast	891
Sheep	2841
Calves	610
Pigs	4

Weight of Meat and Other Foods condemned

	tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Bovine	15	17	—	20
Porcine		1	1	23
Sheep.....		3	1	17
Tinned Foods		8	—	11
Miscellaneous Foods		13	—	17
Veal		5	2	7

Inspection of Food Premises &c.

Water Supply	3
Stables and Piggeries	61
Offensive Trades	26
Fried Fish Shops	6

Bakehouses	83
Slaughterhouses	55
Butchers' Shops	183
Fishmongers and Poulterers	38
Grocers	19
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	157
Cowsheds	74
Dairies and Milkshops	135
Ice Cream Premises	43
Market Stalls	340
Restaurants	20
Street Vendors' and Hawkers' Carts	24

Section 'F'

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases

According to available records, 1947 was the first year in which no case of Diphtheria was notified. Measles and Whooping Cough accounted for 85% of the total cases of infectious disease notified. There were 2 cases of acute-poliomyelitis during the year.

Cases of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during 1947

	Total cases	Under 1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65 and over	Total deaths	Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital
Scarlet Fever	34				1	3	19	10			1				12	
Measles	378	11	39	38	56	76	144	9	2	3					3	
Whoop'g Cough	27	6	2		6	3	9	1							1	
Acute Pneum'nia	28		1		1			2	1	2	8	11	2	12		4
Puerperal Pyrexia	2									1	1					
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1								1						1	
Acute poliomyelitis	2	1					1								2	
Opthalmia Neonatorum	2	2														
Erysipelas	4									2		2			1	
Total.....	478	20	42	38	64	82	173	22	4	8	10	13	2	12	20	4

Diphtheria Immunisation

With the co-operation of the general practitioners, sessions are held monthly at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. The followihg table shows the progress of immunisation to date :

Age	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	
Under 1	47	9	10	19	30	1	10	Total immunised under 5 - 1262 55.5%
1-	165	223	260	221	268	217	222	
2-	110	103	33	8	23	118	60	
3-	101	118	16	7	10	49	7	
4-	75	153	29	10	37	30	7	
5-	78	152	21	9	48	23	3	Total immunised aged 5 - 14 years 2977 92.2%
6-	72	157	10	2	28	24	4	
7-	69	154	6	6	17	24	3	
8-	42	125	25	10	12	20	4	
9-	40	132	21	4	17	19	1	
10-	33	138	32	3	8	14	3	
11-	24	125	16	2	3	11	1	
12-	23	122	29	8	4	3	-	
13-	10	91	25	6	3	5	1	
14-	-	12	4	1	-	3	1	
15 and over	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	Total aged 15 yrs. and over 715
Yearly total	889	1815	537	316	508	561	328	Grand total 4954
Cases of Diphtheria	26	10	5	2	1	2	-	

Disinfection

52 houses were disinfected following infectious disease.

Tuberculosis

New cases and Mortality during 1947

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years—								
0—								
1—								
5—				1				
10—		1		1				
15—	1	2						
20—		1	1	2		1		
25—	4	3		1	1			
35—								
45—	1		1		3	1		
55—	2			3	1			
65 and upwards			1					1
	8	7	3	8	5	2		1
Totals	15		11		7		1	